

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for initiating internet telephone service from a web page containing a telephone number, comprising:

accessing said web page using a browser;
downloading a web page document associated with said web page;
parsing said web page document for detecting a character string representing a telephone number;

modifying said character string in said web page document into a link to said internet telephone service;

providing said web page document including said modified character string to said browser; and

displaying said web page on said browser including said modified character string,

wherein said act of parsing said web page for detecting a character string indicative of a telephone number comprises:

determining if said character string includes alphanumeric characters matching one or more predetermined telephone number formats; and

if said character string matches a first one of said predetermined telephone number format, designating said character string as a telephone number.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

selecting said modified character string indicative of said telephone number;

activating said link to said internet telephone service;

passing said telephone number to said internet telephone service;

initiating a telephone call to said telephone number; and

establishing two-way communications between a caller selecting said character string and a destination audio device designated by said telephone number.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said initiating a telephone call to said telephone number comprises:

launching a server side script at said internet telephone service for initiating said telephone call.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said act of launching a server side script at said internet telephone service comprises:

determining if said caller has logged into said telephone service;
if said caller has not logged in, requesting said caller to log into said telephone service; and
placing a telephone call to said telephone number through said internet telephone service.

5. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method for initiating internet telephone service from a web page containing a telephone number, comprising:

accessing said web page using a browser;
downloading a web page document associated with said web page;
parsing said web page document for detecting a character string representing a telephone number,

modifying said character string in said web page document into a link to said internet telephone service;

providing said web page document including said modified character string to said browser; and

displaying said web page on said browser including said modified character string,

wherein said browser is Microsoft Internet Explorer and said method further comprises:

providing a Browser Helper Object including instructions for parsing said web page and modifying said character string indicative of said telephone number; and
installing said Browser Helper Object, thereby activating said Browser Helper Object whenever said browser is activated.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6 1, wherein said one or more predetermined telephone number formats include at least one of the following: (###) ###-####, (###) ###-####, ###.###.####, ###/###/####, ###/###-####, ###-###-####, ###-###-####), #-###-###-####, +# (###) ###-####, +# (###) ###-####, +# ### ### ####, +#-### ### ####, +#-### ###-####, +#-###-###-####, ### ### ####, ### ###.####, and ### ###-####, where # represents a digit between 0 and 9 or a character between A and Z.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said one or more predetermined telephone number formats further include #####, where the first three characters are numeric digit between 0 and 9.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6 1, wherein said act of parsing said web page further comprises:

determining if said character string is a hypertext link; and
if said character string is a hypertext link, refraining from designating said character string as a telephone number even if said character string matches a first one of said predetermined telephone number format.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein said web page document is written in hypertext markup language (HTML) and said determining if said character string is a hypertext link comprises:

determining if said character string is preceded by the character A or a.

11. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method for initiating internet telephone service from a web page containing a telephone number, comprising:

accessing said web page using a browser;

downloading a web page document associated with said web page;

parsing said web page document for detecting a character string representing a telephone number,

modifying said character string in said web page document into a link to said internet telephone service;

providing said web page document including said modified character string to said browser; and

displaying said web page on said browser including said modified character string,

wherein said act of modifying said character string in said web page into a link to said internet telephone service comprises:

providing a first string including link information to said internet telephone service;

appending to said first string a first parameter containing said telephone number;
appending to said first parameter a second parameter containing said telephone number;

concatenating said first string, said first parameter and said second parameter to form said modified character string; and

providing said modified character string to said browser for display.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said appending to said first string a first parameter containing said telephone number comprises:

appending an international dialing access code to the beginning of said telephone number for forming said first parameter; and

appending said first parameter to said first string.

13. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method for initiating internet telephone service from a web page containing a telephone number, comprising:

accessing said web page using a browser;
downloading a web page document associated with said web page;
parsing said web page document for detecting a character string representing a
telephone number,
modifying said character string in said web page document into a link to said
internet telephone service;
providing said web page document including said modified character string to
said browser; and
displaying said web page on said browser including said modified character
string,

wherein said act of modifying said character string in said web page into a link to said internet telephone service comprises:

providing a first string including link information to said internet telephone service;
appending to said first string a first parameter containing said telephone number;
providing a second string including window properties information for displaying a window of said internet service provider;
appending to said second string a second parameter containing said telephone number;
providing a third string including character formatting information; and
concatenating said first string, said second string and said third string to form said modified character string; and
providing said modified character string to said browser for display.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

providing a caller-selectable interface for selectively enabling or disabling said acts of parsing said web page document and modifying said character string in said web page document.

15. (Canceled)